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U.S. Application No. 09/752,267 Art Unit 2614
Submission of Amendment with RCE in Response to October 5, 2005 Final Office Action

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of distributing tagged programming, the method comprising:
 - receiving programming;
 - receiving a data tag with the programming, the data tag comprising control data relating to the programming, the data tag added to an end of a program;
 - stripping the data tag from the programming; and
 - communicating the control data to a consumer electronics device.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the data tag comprises an ASCII character that prevents display of the data tag in the program ~~is received with electronic program guide data.~~
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the data tag comprises a command to add a reminder to a calendar application ~~obtain real time data from the internet that is synchronized to the programming.~~
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the data tag comprises a command to add a reminder to an external calendar application ~~uniform resource locator link to a website that contains related information to the programming.~~
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the data tag begins and ends with a predetermined ASCII character ~~obtains supplemental electronic program guide data from the internet for the programming.~~
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the data tag comprises a command and a start offset, the start offset having a negative value to indicate the command

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becomes active before a start time for the program ~~is a command to retrieve data from memory of an external device.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the data tag comprises a single entry having a command with multiple pairs of a start offset and a duration, with each paired start offset and duration identifying commercial programming, and the command muting the commercial programming ~~is a command to retrieve data via the internet.~~
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the data tag comprises ~~is a command~~ mute a ringer on a telephony device ~~for environmental control of audio equipment.~~
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the data tag comprises a command to mute programming that exceeds a parental control rating ~~configures the consumer electronics device.~~
10. (Currently Amended) A method of distributing tagged programming, comprising:

communicating electronic program guide data via a communications network; and
communicating a data tag that has been added to an end of a program description ~~in~~ the electronic program guide data, the data tag comprising a command and a parameter, the command comprising an instruction to send a control instruction to a consumer electronics device.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein communicating the data tag comprises communicating an ASCII character that prevents display of the data tag in the electronic programming guide data ~~start offset and a duration to activate the data tag.~~
12. (Cancel)

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13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein communicating the data tag comprises communicating a reminder to a calendar application ~~the control instruction to configure audio equipment.~~
14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein communicating the data tag comprises communicating a command to add a reminder to an external calendar application ~~the control instruction to configure lighting.~~
15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein communicating the data tag comprises communicating a predetermined ASCII character to denote a beginning and an end of the data tag ~~uniform resource locator.~~
16. (Currently Amended) A method of receiving tagged programming, comprising:
 - receiving electronic program guide data;
 - receiving a data tag that has been added to an end of a program description in the
 - electronic program guide data, the data tag comprising a command and a parameter;
 - stripping the data tag from the electronic program guide data; and
 - communicating the command and the parameter to a consumer electronics device.
17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein receiving the data tag comprises receiving an ASCII character that prevents display of the data tag in the electronic programming guide data ~~start offset and a duration that activates the data tag.~~
18. (Cancel)
19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of receiving the data tag comprises receiving a reminder for a calendar application ~~further comprising retrieving data from the internet.~~

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20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of receiving the data tag comprises receiving a predetermined ASCII character that indicates a beginning and an end of the data tag ~~further comprising retrieving data from memory to modify a volume of a program based upon the data tag.~~
21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of receiving the data tag comprises receiving a command and a start offset, the start offset having a negative value to indicate the command becomes active before a start time for a program ~~further comprising modifying a program during a commercial.~~
22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of receiving the data tag comprises receiving a single entry having a command with multiple pairs of a start offset and a duration, with each paired start offset and duration identifying commercial programming, and the command muting the commercial programming ~~further comprising processing an instruction to mute a volume.~~
23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of receiving the data tag comprises receiving a command to mute a ringer on a telephony device ~~further comprising processing an instruction for alternate programming during a commercial.~~
24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of receiving the data tag comprises receiving a command to mute programming that exceeds a parental control rating ~~further comprising processing an instruction to configure audio equipment.~~
25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of receiving the data tag comprises receiving a command to add a reminder to an external calendar application ~~further comprising processing an instruction to configure lighting.~~

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26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising setting a reminder for a calendar application and communicating the reminder to the consumer electronics device ~~processing an instruction to configure a motion simulator.~~
27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising communicating the electronic program guide data to the consumer electronics device ~~processing an instruction to configure an aroma generator to generate aromas.~~
28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising setting a reminder for a calendar application ~~communicating the control data to a consumer electronics device to mute commercial programming.~~
29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a reminder for a calendar application ~~processing an instruction to censor at least a portion of the programming.~~
30. (Currently Amended) A computer program for distributing tagged programming, the computer program comprising instructions for performing the steps:
- receiving programming;
receiving a data tag with the programming, the data tag comprising control information relating to the programming, the data tag added to an end of a program;
stripping the data tag from the programming; and
communicating the control data to a consumer electronics device.
31. (Currently Amended) A computer program according to claim 30, further comprising instructions for receiving an ASCII character that prevents display of the data tag in the program ~~wherein receiving the data tag comprises receiving the data tag added to electronic program guide data.~~

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32. (Currently Amended) A computer program according to claim 30, further comprising instructions for receiving a command and a start offset, the start offset having a negative value to indicate the command becomes active before a start time for the program ~~wherein receiving the data tag comprises receiving the data tag added to electronic program guide data, the data tag comprising a command and a parameter.~~
33. (Currently Amended) A computer program according to claim 30, further comprising instructions for receiving the data tag as a single entry having a command with multiple pairs of a start offset and a duration, with each paired start offset and duration identifying commercial programming, and the command muting the commercial programming ~~wherein receiving the data tag comprises receiving the data tag added to electronic program guide data, the data tag comprising a command, a parameter, and a start offset and a duration that activates the data tag.~~